

## **REMARKS**

Claims 1-3 are pending in this application.

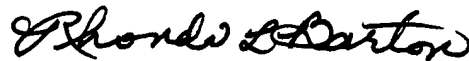
By this Preliminary Amendment, Claim 1 is amended. The amendments clarify the presently claimed invention and place this application into better condition for examination. The claim amendments are supported by the specification and the originally filed claims. In particular, support for the amendments can be found in at least Figures 1 and 2 of the application as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

Claim 1, as amended, recites mounting the plurality of parts to the cable in mounted positions which are intermediate between opposite ends of the cable and in mounted attitudes, the mounted positions and the mounted attitudes being determined respectively for the parts. In contrast, Inoue et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,347,651) and Yazawa (Japanese Patent Publication No. 06-223639) disclose an alleged part of a wire being connected to an end of the wire. See Figure 6 of Inoue et al. and Figure 3 of Yazawa. As such, Inoue et al. and Yazawa fail to disclose or suggest each and every feature of the invention as recited in claim 1.

Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below to schedule a personal or telephone interview to discuss any remaining issues.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension, together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to counsel's Deposit Account No. 01-2300, **referencing docket number 107348-00358**.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Request for Continued Examination  
Petition for Extension of Time (one month)